

NEWS RELEASE

FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20427

Wednesday, November 10 2010 For Immediate Release Web site: www.fmcs.gov Contact: John Arnold Director of Public Affairs Phone: (202) 606-8100

FMCS Announces Labor-Management Grants

WASHINGTON, D.C.— The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) today announced 10 grants totaling approximately \$750,000 to support cooperative initiatives by labor-management groups nationwide through recognition of innovative approaches to workplace issues as well as best practices in labor relations.

"I am delighted to report that this year's grant program has focused on some of the critical realities confronting labor and management. Among the most important grants awarded were those addressing health care—the single major cause of collective bargaining disputes this past year—green jobs, diversity in the workplace and the cause of and practical solutions to on-the-job injuries," said FMCS Director George H. Cohen.

Through the years, the FMCS grants program has helped union and employee groups nationwide develop creative conflict resolution projects that improve cooperation and enhance organizational effectiveness. "I am pleased to see how the innovative efforts of our grantees around the country are breaking down barriers and demonstrating the tangible benefits of labor-management cooperation. I hope to see those model efforts duplicated by even more companies in the future as we work together on health care solutions and progressive approaches for building a more secure and sustainable economy," the FMCS Director said.

The grants program, which began in 1981 under the authority of the Labor-Management Cooperation Act of 1978 (PL 95-524), has funded a broad range of projects including outreach, communications, strategic planning, minority recruitment and process development.

Summaries of the grant recipients' projects are available on the agency's website, www.FMCS.gov.

Applicants wishing to learn more about the FMCS labor-management grants program may call the FMCS Grants Office at 202-606-8181 or visit the agency's website at www.fmcs.gov.

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The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, created in 1947, is an independent U.S. government agency whose mission is to preserve and promote labor-management peace and cooperation. Headquartered in Washington, DC, with 10 district offices and 67 field offices, the agency provides mediation and conflict resolution services to industry, government agencies and communities.